

Gunnison City Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 3, 2021, 7:00 PM
Gunnison City Hall, 38 West Center
Gunnison, UT 84634

Present: Mayor Lori Nay, Councilmembers: Robert Andersen, Stella Hill, Shawn Crane, Michael Wanner, Rod Taylor, City Recorder Steven Jensen, Public Works Director Donald Childs, Assistant Public Works Director JD Bunnell, Citizens Blake Donaldson, Dr. Kim Beck, Miss Gunnison Leticia Rodriguez, Deanne Addis, Colleen Ogden

Presiding: Mayor Lori Nay
Invocation: Councilmember Michael Wanner

7:00 Presentation from Sanpete Kindness (Positivity Signs) – Linda Christiansen

Before Mayor Nay turned the time over to Linda, Councilmember Stella Hill wanted to recognize JD Bunnell who was newly hired to be the Assistant to the Public Works Director. Councilmember Hill congratulated him, as did the mayor and the rest of the Council and stated that JD would do a good job.

The time was turned over to Linda to explain what she was planning to do in the area. Linda gave the Council some background of her life and with the death of her child at the age of 21. She has wanted to begin a project to help spread the word of suicide in Sanpete County. She is working with 14 media outlet and will be placing positivity signs around the different cities in Sanpete County. She will be leaving after her presentation to go to talk to the City Council of Fayette as well. There will be no cost to the cities and her nonprofit will be 100% funded by donations and fundraisers. Linda also talked about doing a contest to choose a logo for the nonprofit. It will be kicking off November 2, 2021 and will go to November 30, 2021. The winner will receive a dinner of \$50.00 to any local Sanpete Business. The hope will be to help start the discussion about suicide. There will be signs, and some cities will help with bumper stickers on local fire engines. The hope was also later do murals and banners around town and the ball fields. The mayor and council all gave their approval and support that Linda might need in the future. The suggestion was also made by Councilmember Michael Wanner to place some signs or banners along the river walk.

7:15 pm: Linda Christiansen left

Discussion of Drainage Problem at 700 South and Main Street – Dr. Kim Beck

Dr. Kim Beck came before the Council to discuss the flooding problem that happened with the past two storms that brought water to her rental property on 700 South and Main Street. She explained the damage that occurred to her property and how she has gone to UDOT for relief and to try to fix the situation. She was told by UDOT that the excess water was not coming from Hwy 89 (Main Street) and that it was off 700 South. She has spent her own money to put in a dry well to capture run off water for future problems and also created a berm along her property line to divert water around to the dry well and away from her property. She was asking for the City's help in covering the costs that she has incurred so far. Dr. Beck reported that she had met with Donald Childs who is the Public Works Director and he had assessed the situation as well.

Mayor Nay brought Donald Childs up to the microphone to explain what he thought and saw of the situation as well. He reported that he did not think the runoff of water was coming from 700 South. There would need to be elevations looked at, but he thought most of the water was coming from Hwy 89. It looked like the road coming from Centerfield and Gunnison along Hwy 89 ran down hill and that Dr. Beck's property was in a bowl and the water had no place to go but onto her property. Councilmembers Robert Andersen and Michael Wanner both explained that they had gone to look at the property themselves and agreed with Donald Childs that it looked like the property in question was in a bowl and all the water seemed to run to that point.

Mayor Nay also spoke with Dr. Beck about FEMA having some programs and grants to help homeowners that experienced flooding. She also explained that it sounded that UDOT needed to come out and survey the elevations of Hwy 89 along the property lines and 700 South to determine what the situation was and then go from there as to best handle the problem in the future. Dr. Beck said that she would follow up with UDOT and the City later to stay abreast of the progress. Mayor Nay thanked Dr. Beck for her time and also excused Public Works Employees Donald Childs and JD Bunnell for their time as well.

7:38: Dr. Kim Beck left

Discussion with Possible Approval of Resolution 2021-11 INTENT TO BECOME PART OF THE UTAH MAIN STREET PROGRAM – Mayor Lori Nay

Mayor Nay began the discussion by explaining the Main Street Program is a federal program that has been adopted on the state level and that its purpose was to help communities revitalize their Main Streets by being a conduit to communities for grants and incentives for businesses to set up shop. Information was given to the Council to show what the Main Street Program would do – it would mainly provide education, consulting, and grants and basically help the city focus on creating a thriving main street. It could possibly be used to reinstate a façade incentive program or similar programs that encourage businesses to renovate their business frontages, signage and so on. Councilmember Taylor asked if this would change anything on main street at this time. It was explained that the program is still in development on the State level and that the resolution was to show the State that Gunnison wants to be included in this program as it evolves. The mayor also discussed historical preservation opportunities with some of the buildings along main street with the possible designation of a Historic District on Main Street. For instance, the current State Bank Building is not eligible for historic preservation by itself but if the City were to create a historic district, any investment made there would result in a 20% federal tax credit and a 10% state tax credit. It would take public hearings and discussion with all impacted business owners, but if Main Street were designated as a historic district, it would help encourage outside investment to develop and grow businesses in the vacant buildings. The historic district proposal would need to be discussed at a different time at another meeting and would also require a Public Hearing and get input from the public and businesses alike for the future of that area and the possibility of a designation.

Councilmember Shawn Crane made the motion to approve the Resolution 2021-11 Intent to become part of the Utah Main Street Program. Councilmember Michael Wanner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous 5-0

Discussion of Staff Christmas Party and Community Christmas Celebrations – Mayor Lori Nay

Mayor Nay wanted to have the Council pick a date that would work for everyone for the City Staff Christmas Party. The second week in December would work best and that Tuesday December 7. The mayor reported that she would not be in town on December 1st for the next Council meeting. December 9th was discussed and Councilmember Wanner replied that he would not be able to attend that day and to hold it with out him. December 7th was decided that it would work best for everyone. An email would be sent out at a later date with the information.

Mayor Nay wanted to go over the other community celebrations that would be happening. There will be a light parade on November 27th, as well as the Lions Club will put the Christmas tree by the clock tower so that it could be lighted for the parade. Then Santa will be meeting with the children after the parade at the Gunnison Fire Department. The fire department was gracious enough to allow Santa to be there so that the public could be out of the cold. The theater will be showing Polar Express for two showings at 2 pm and 4 pm the day of the 27th as well. That day is also Small Business Saturday. The slogan from the State is **“Shop Local First, It’s Your Community, Its Your Future”**. The mayor wanted that slogan put on the board down by the Riverwalk to remind the community.

Proposed Approval of City Council Minutes for Wednesday, September 15, 2021, Wednesday, October 6, 2021, and Wednesday, October 20, 2021

It was reported that due to errors that the mayor found, the minutes were updated, and the mayor thought they looked good to approve. She asked if the council were able to look at the minutes and if they had any questions. Councilmember Taylor reported that he did not get the email in time to look at the minutes and would abstain from the vote. He looked for an email and did not see one until later in the afternoon.

Councilmember Shawn Crane made the motion to approve the minutes for Wednesday September 15, 2021, Wednesday October 6, 2021, and Wednesday, October 20, 2021. Councilmember Robert Andersen seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0. Councilmember Rod Taylor abstained from the vote.

Approval of Bills and Adjustments

Councilmember Stella Hill made the motion to approve the bills. Councilmember Shawn Crane seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous 5-0.

Other Business

Trimming Trees at the Cemetery: Councilmember Stella Hill wanted to discuss the old trees at the cemetery that needed to be trimmed. She was wondering about putting the job out to bid. There is only 5,000 available for the project and was wondering how businesses would be able to put in a bid when there is only a set amount of money for the project. The discussion was about the need

to have someone that is experienced. The discussion then turned to the beautification meeting that happened on Tuesday November 2, 2021. The committee wanted to put in some bulbs in the planter boxes on main street and then also put up the extension bars on the light poles to hang the hanging flower pots next spring. Councilmember Hill also let the council know that the Christmas banners and lights will be going up soon before Thanksgiving. Public Works Director Donald Childs reported that he would schedule for it to be done soon.

The discussion then turned to the missing light poles on main street. There would have to be some things done so that there was access to electricity for all the Christmas lights to be put up this year.

Election: Councilmember Hill congratulated Councilmember Wanner on his win and also for Mayor Nay, Councilmember Andersen, and Councilmember Crane. There was a discussion of only having 38% turn out for voting but that was better than the primary was.

Trail System G-Hill: Councilmember Wanner reported that the Trails Committee was close to being ready to stake out the first phase of bike trails. He would get more information as to when it would start.

New Subdivision 500 West: Councilmember Taylor wanted to discuss the new subdivision that Josh Flake is doing over by 500 West. They are wanting to start phase one soon and are still working on the drainage and how the city would be working together with the engineers. The mayor agreed and that the city was waiting on the numbers and plans to be sent in so that it could be looked over before approval. There needs to be plans drawn up by the engineers to show where the parking lot and trail head will be so that they can be sent to Rocky Mountain Power so that some of the power poles in the way can be moved. The question about the schedule to replace the street lighting on the back streets of the city were close. Councilmember Taylor reported he had contacted Rocky Mountain Power and it should be soon. The overall savings over a 3-year period would be \$12,000.

Final Approval to Letter of Occupation: Councilmember Taylor went over the process for finalization of occupation with the County and City. It was reported that the permit holder needs to contact the city to schedule the final inspection once that has been completed and all fees have been paid. Then the City Recorder will contact Sanpete County to inform them that everything checks out with the City and then will issue the letter of occupancy to the permit holder. Councilmember Taylor suggested that a form be created with the city so that the form can be filled out and then signed and sent to the County that everything has been completed. Councilmember Wanner suggested that a copy of that email being completed and filed with the permit.

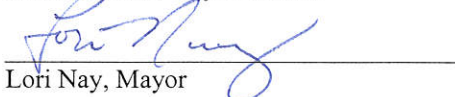
Adjourn

8:20 Adjourn: Councilmember Crane made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote 5-0.

Adjourn



Steven Jensen, City Recorder



Lori Nay, Mayor



Approval Date